2nd May, 1990 and state whether there is any scope of Vigyan Bhavan Complex being renovated ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : As the building is now in the custody of the Police authorities and detailed examination of the structure and physical and load tests have to be carried out, it is not possible to indicate, at this stage, as to whether renovation of the portions of the building, which had suffered damage, is practicable.

Import of pesticides banned abroad

@@1767. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th April, 1990 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some pesticides like Dieldrin, Aldrin, BHC, Luidance, Dichlorovos, Enfosulfan 2, 4, D which originated in the U.S.A. but have been banned in that country are being imported to India;

(b) whether these pesticides seriously affect the human organs like heart, kidney and nerves and even lead to cancer;

(c) whether Government have appointed a Committee of technical experts to screen the insecticides banned abroad; and

(d) if so, the details of the findings and the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) An expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. N. Banerjee has been constituted to review all the pesticides which are banned or restricted in other countries but are being used in India. This Committee has already reviewed 14 pesticides and submitted its report to the Government. The recommendation of this Committee on 11 pesticides have been accepted, and 3 are being further examined. In addition 17 more pesticides have been identified for review by the Banerjee Committee.

Ban on Pesticides

1768. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ban 3 pesticides if so, the details thereof and by when this ban would be imposed as appeared in the Business Standard of the 27th April, 1990;

(b) whether 15 other pesticides have also been identified for similar ban and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether pesticides at (a) and (b) above have already been banned in several other countries and if so, the details thereof and what are the reasons that similar action is being delayed by Government; and

(d) whether Government would evolve a pragmatic National Pesticides Policy as advocated by the National Core Group on Pesticides organised by VHAI in New Delhi on the 20-21st February, 1989, including creation of National Poison Control Centre and Information Centre for Pesticides?

@@Previously Unstarred Question 1216 transferred from the 21st May, 1990.